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R. Tall

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: HIGUCHI

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BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicant hereby attaches U.S. Patent Office Form PTOL-1449, including copies of the prior art references listed therein together with the English language abstracts. These references are discussed in the specification. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

This information disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(a). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitute prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(a) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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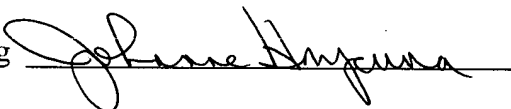
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